

January 8, 2008

Douglas F. Gansler,  
Maryland Attorney General  
200 St Paul Street  
Baltimore, Maryland

Re: City of Rockville support for the defense of the Maryland Clean Cars Act of 2007

Dear Mr. Gansler:

As you may know, the City of Rockville has embarked on a series of efforts aimed at making our community more sustainable and environmentally friendly. We have recently adopted a five-year, multi-pronged sustainability strategy for the City. Our strategy addresses water quality, land use and energy efficiency among other issues, but we are particularly concerned about the local and regional effects of global climate change. To address this critical issue, Rockville is working to find ways to reduce and ultimately eliminate greenhouse gas emissions in our area. Consequently Rockville applauded the State Legislature when it adopted the Clean Cars Act of 2007, and has eagerly anticipated its implementation in Maryland beginning in 2011.

We are writing to express our dismay and disappointment with the recent action taken by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to deny the greenhouse gas reduction regulations adopted by the State of California. Rockville understands that the Maryland Clean Cars standards being developed at the Maryland Department of Environment will mirror the California standards. We further understand that rejection of the California standards means that it is likely that the Maryland standards will face a similar denial when EPA considers them in 2008.

Rockville believes that the future of our community, our State and even our nation requires that these air pollution standards move forward as soon as possible. Therefore, on behalf of the City of Rockville, we encourage the Attorney General to defend the Maryland Clean Cars Act and support the State of California by joining in any legal challenge California brings to reverse this unfortunate Federal decision. Please find enclosed a resolution to that effect from the Rockville Mayor and Council adopted on January 7, 2008.

Should you have any questions or comments on this matter, please contact me or call Scott Ullery, the Rockville City Manager at (240) 314-8101.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Hoffmann  
Mayor

Enc

Cc: Scott Ullery  
Craig Simoneau  
Mark Charles